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ACCOUNT OF THE RECEPTION

GIVEN BY THE

CITIZENS OF NEW-YORK

TO THE SURVIVORS OF THE

OFFICERS AND CREWS

OF THE

UNITED STATES FRIGATES

CUMBERLAND AND CONGRESS,

AT THE

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, APRIL 10th, 1832.

156

PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS : JOHN A. GRAY & GREEN, PRINTERS, STEREOTYPERS, AND BINDERS, FIRE-PROOF BUILDINGS, CORNER FRANKFORT AND JACOB STREETS.

NEW-YORK. C.H.S



NAIL OUR FLAG TO THE MAST.

NAIL our flag to the mast! that all nations may know It floats over freemen who'll ever defend it, Will ne'er haul it down, though o'erwhelming the foe, Though the smoke may enshroud, though the war-hail may rend it. When the smoke clears away At the close of the fray,

Our flag, though in tatters, we'll proudly display And e'en though we sink, still unconquered at last, We'll sink 'neath the wave with flag nailed to the mast.

Nail our flag to the mast! 'tis the flag of the free:

While the deeds of our fathers are hallowed in story, Our standard a terror to tyrants shall be,

To freemen a beacon of honor and glory.

Spite of wind and of rain,

On its folds not a stain,

Our flag shall untarnished forever remain;

In peace or in war, from the first to the last,

Dear country, speed on, with flag nailed to the mast.

FROM RHYMINGS BY HOWARD WAINWRIGHT, 1860.





For right is right, since God is God, And right the day must win; To doubt would be disloyalty, To falter would be sin.

SATURDAY, THE EIGHTH DAY OF MARCH, A.D. 1862, will ever be regarded as the beginning of a new era in the annals of naval warfare.

The names of the CONGRESS and CUMBERLAND, the MERRIMAC and MONITOR (more easily remembered because of their coïncident alliteration) will stand forth prominent in the history of the most momentous Rebellion the world has ever witnessed, and as connected with the settlement of a question, the decision of which will change the character of the navies of the world.

Not only so. No prouder names than these will be found on the pages of the Heroic Record, which have been so often emblazoned with gallant deeds of daring or of suffering by the men of the sea.

Eminently proper was it, then, that the events recorded in this little book should be so signalized; that the brave sailors who preferred death to dishonor should be so honored; that the hearty welcome of the great commercial Metropolis should be given to the surviving heroes of that desperate fight.

Is it not equally fit that this memorial volume should preserve the record of these events; that it should be placed in the hands of all the seamen in our Navy, to encourage them to emulate such noble devotion to their Country and its Flag; and that it should be circulated far and wide through the land, to teach our children and children's children what a debt we owe to those whose characters it reveals, and whose exploits it narrates, and to disseminate everywhere the seeds of patriotism, valor and fortitude ?

It having come to the knowledge of some of our citizens that the greater part of the crews of the Congress and Cumberland were at the Navy Yard at Brooklyn, saddened by the loss their country's flag had sustained, and that most of them had lost all their personal effects, it was deemed just and proper that they should be suitably honored for their bravery and devotion to their flag, and at the same time an effort made to give them some aid pecuniarily.

Commodore Paulding was consulted in the matter; it met his hearty approval; and he having promised his aid and counsel, the other officers of the station cheerfully coöperating, the following circular was issued:

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, THURSDAY EVENING, April 10, 1862.

A reception will be given as above to the Officers and Crews of the Frigates CUMBERLAND and CON-GRESS who so nobly stood by their guns and their flag in the late engagement in Hampton Roads.

Personal narratives will be given by one or more from those ships, and addresses made by distinguished speakers.

The Band of the North-Carolina will be present by permission of Commodore Paulding.

Tickets of admission, fifty cents.

Can be obtained at the Academy of Music, and at the principal Music and Book Stores, and Hotels.

For the convenience of families, Reserved Seats can be secured in the Box Circle, (at the Academy only.) 50 cents extra.

Subscriptions toward the same object will be received by the Committee, and all proceeds will be distributed among the petty officers and men, as a token of regard, and a just though partial indemnification for personal pecuniary losses sustained by these brave defenders of their flag.

P. PERIT, OLYPHANT, SON & CO., WM. B. CROSBY, HOWLAND & ASPINWALL, ALSOP & CHAUNCEY, JAS. G. KING, A. GRACIE KING, JAS. W. UNDERHILL, REV. S. H. TYNG, CALEB BARSTOW, HORACE WEBSTER, DUNCAN, SHERMAN & CO., SHEPHERD KNAPP, CHAS. H. MARSHALL, WESTON & GRAY, M. H. GRINNELL, PHELPS, DODGE & CO., BROWN, BROTHERS & CO.; WM. SCOTT, MAUNSELL B. FIELD, F. S. LATHROP, GEO. F. NESBITT, REV. F. VINTON, REV. S. B. S. BISSELL, JOHN A. PARKER, SNOW & BURGESS, WM. A. BOOTH, A. A. LOW & BROS, DAVID HOADLEY, JOHN J. CISCO, HAMILTON FISH, ROBERT L. TAYLOR, JAS. A. BRIGGS, T. B. SATTERTHWAITE, EDW. A. WEEKS, ALFRED EDWARDS, REV. H. LOOMIS, SAM'L B. RUGGLES, CHAS. P. KIRKLAND, JOHN A. STEVENS, LUTHER BRADISH, REV. H. W. BELLOWS, CHAS. TRACY, GEO. OPDYKE, W. F. FROST, W. W. DEFOREST & CO., IRVING GRINNELL, WILLIAMS & GUION, R. P. BUCK, CROCKER, WOOD & CO., PETER COOPER, NESMITH & SON, H. K. CORNING, SON & CO.; GEO. W. BLUNT, RICHARD LATHERS, SPOFFORD, TILESTON & CO., And others,

Treasurer of Committee,

E. PLATT, Cashier of the Seamen's Bank for Savings, No. 78 Wall St.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

JAS. DEMAREST,	E. E. MORGAN,
LLOYD ASPINWALL,	WM. E. DODGE, JR.,
JOSEPH F. JOY,	F. M. FRENCH,
E. RICHARDSON,	HENRY P. MARSHALL.

The Committee prepared the following programme, which, with some additions suggested at the time, was carried out as hereinafter narrated.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1. Music by the Band of U. S. Ship North-Carolina, present by permission of Com. PAULD-ING.

Presentation of the Crews of Frigates Congress and Cumberland to the Audience, and Address of Welcome by the Chairman, PELATIAN PERIT, Esq.

- 2. Prayer by Isaac FERRIS, D.D., Chancellor N. Y. University.
- 3. Music by the Band. "Star-Spangled Banner."
- 4. Address by Rev. Prof. Roswell D. Hitchcock, D.D.
- 5. Song-Viva l'America. Miss MARIA BRAINERD.
- 6. Description of the attack of the Merrimac, by one of the Crew of the Cumberland.
- 7. Song—" Red, White and Blue," by George Mo-KENNEY, one of the Crew. Chorus by the Man-o'-War's Men.

PART II.

- 1. Music by the Band.
- 2. Address by WM. M. EVARTS, Esq.
- 3. Song—"White Squall," by S. C. CAMPBELL.
- 4. Description of the fight by one of the Crew of the Congress.
- Song "Boatswain's Call," by WALTER M. PIERCE, one of the Crew. Chorus by Mano'-War's Men.
- 6. Parting Address to the Crews, by W. E. Dodge, Esq.
- 7. National Airs by the Band.

At five o'clock about one hundred of the surviving sailors of the ill-fated Cumberland and Congress with fifty marines formed at the Navy-Yard, and with the band of the North-Carolina at their head, crossed Fulton Ferry. On the New-York side they were met by the Committee of Reception, consisting of Messrs. French, Richardson, and Aspinwall. Fulton street and Broadway put on holiday attire, and crowds greeted them on their march to the Academy of Music, which they reached at half-past six o'clock, and where they found a substantial collation awaiting them.

The doors opened to the public at seven o'clock, and long before eight the house was densely crowded. The time was pleasantly beguiled by the band, whose performances received, as they deserved, the hearty approval of the audience. Over the stage was a white flag edged with blue, on which, in red letters, was:

Welcome, brave Defenders of the Flag of our Country.

While on either hand were similar flags, bearing the words "Cumberland" and "Congress." The proscenium boxes were gayly decorated with the banner of liberty, and around the amphitheatre the signal-flags of a man-of-war were suspended.

The sailors and marines marched in, and were received with hearty rounds of applause, the whole house rising to receive them. After they were seated, three cheers were given them, and at the sound of the boatswain's whistle, which was repeated as if from below on shipboard, Chancellor Ferris of the University offered prayer.

The Chairman, Pelatiah Perit, Esq., then said :

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: We are assembled this evening to give a proper reception to the surviving officers and sailors of the frigates Cumberland and Congress, which were destroyed in the engagement with the iron-clad ship Merrimac on the eighth ultimo. Fighting to every disadvantage, they stood to their guns until, submerged in water, they could be fired no longer, and then escaped with their lives, with the loss of every thing else but their honor. The flag of the Cumberland was never struck, and still floats in the face of the enemy. The killed and wounded went down with the sinking ships, and were buried in a watery grave. They will ever be remembered with honor as heroes who have given their lives a sacrifice to their country. This crowded assemblage gives evidence that their widows and orphans will be remembered by a grateful nation. The record of the sailor has ever been an honorable one in the history of our nation. Accustomed to the dangers of the ocean, inured to hardship, trained to strict discipline, they are ever ready at the call of their country to face danger in any form. We owe to them our unprecedented commercial advancement; we owe to them most of the luxuries and comforts which we enjoy; we owe to them our naval triumphs. In the war with Great Britain in 1812, in spite of the overwhelming navy of England, our ships of war and privateers launched forth from every port, and gained laurels in every engagement with the enemy. In the civil war now raging, they have been prompt to obey the call of their country, and among the most

distinguished exploits of the campaign have been the achievements of the navy. The names of Foote [cheers,] Stringham, [applause,] and Du Pont, [cheering] will ever stand prominent in the history of our nation. The President of the United States has officially announced that, while many officers had gone over to the rebellion, not a soldier in the ranks or a sailor in the navy had ever proved a traitor. What a noble tribute to a faithful people! Such are the men whom we have invited to meet us this evening. Such are the men who ought ever to receive our sympathies and our efforts for their good. And I am sure that every heart in this assembly will respond to me when I give them a cordial welcome.

At the close of Mr. Perit's address, he formally introduced the sailors, and, amid tumultuous applause and waving of handkerchiefs by the audience, a huge flag was run up from the stage, the sailors saluting it with three cheers, the audience rising and responding with great enthusiasm.

The band played the Star-Spangled Banner.

The Rev. Roswell D. Hitchcock, who was then introduced, said that he was proud of New-York, and of these heroic men.

At his call and the boatswain's, Jack gave the flag three cheers again, and New-York gave Jack "three cheers and a New-York tiger."

Dr. Hitchcock proceeded :

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I am proud of New-York to-night. Our city honors her-

self in thus honoring these plain, brave men, who have risked their lives in defence of all we hold dear. For these outbursts of enthusiastic welcome I tender you my thanks. Never did men better deserve such a welcome than these honest tars. I confess to a sentiment of reverence towards them as heroes of the noblest type. But before uttering another word, I would like to hear their voices once more saluting our country's flag. Come, Jack, [turning to the sailors,] let us have three more rousing cheers for the Stars and the Stripes. [In answer to the boatswain's whistle, the sailors gave three tremendous cheers, which broke on the audience like a thunder-clap.] Now, New-York, [turning to the audience,] let us give Jack three cheers and a tiger. [They were given with great enthusiasm.] That will do.

We are here to-night in a festive mood, exultant over the victories which are now breaking upon us with startling rapidity from almost every point in our gigantic sweep against rebellion by land and by It thunders now, as McClellan promised it sea. should, around the whole horizon; and wherever the lightning of our power strikes, it strikes to blast the infamous disturbers of our peace, the enemies of our beneficent Constitution, the enemies of republican freedom, the enemies of the human race. But who of us does not shudder to recall the dark and dismal scenes of a little more than a year ago, when treason ruled the hour, when we knew not whom to trust, when the solid ground underneath our feet seemed to be crumbling away, when the very air we breathed seemed to be undergoing decomposition ?

But in the depth of our despair, thank God, we found the beginning of our deliverance. Then it was that our lion-faced and lion-hearted Lieutenant-General [great cheering for General Scott] secured the inauguration of our constitutionally elected President, and saved the Capital. Then it was that history found another hero at Sumter, while the roar of Beauregard's artillery as in an instant called the nation to its feet in arms. [Applause.] It was, indeed, a grand uprising of a great people. Lavishly did we pledge to the Government our fortunes and our lives. But war was new to us, and we were slow to get the measure of our work. For a time we boasted, and blundered, and were humbled by unexpected reverses. Ellsworth was murdered at Alexandria. Greble and Winthrop fell at Big Bethel. At Bull Run-let us never call it Manassas-a real victory on our side was, by a teamsters' panic, turned into a shameful rout; the greatest of blessings in the grimmest disguise, for it brought us to our knees in self-abasement and in prayer. Then, looking beyond the clouds for help, we buckled on for the first time the harness of a true Christian heroism. Then we awoke to the greatness of the task imposed upon us, and marshaled forces commensurate with our desperate necessities.

All honor to our gallant Army of sons and brothers, who are now marching like veterans from victory to victory. But let us not forget that it was our equally gallant Navy, which first turned the tide of battle in our favor. [Cheers.] This arm of our country's service has never disappointed us. From its earliest, feeble beginning in 1775, when we had but two humble cruisers of ten and of fourteen guns, till now, it has never disappointed us. In the war of the Revolution, in the war of 1812-15, whether on the sea or on the lakes, we have had abundant reason to admire the daring of our sailors, and the genius of our Captains and Commodores. In many a dark hour of national peril and despondency has our little Navy retrieved our waning fortunes, watching up our starry flag and bearing it in triumph through the smoke and thunder of battle. These glorious traditions are in no danger of fading. Recent achievements are only reviving their lustre. Hatteras heads a new list of victories; the modest, accomplished Stringham, whom I am sorry not to see here to-night, heads a new line of heroes. [Great applause.] If the Government has failed in any measure to recognize the greath worth of his services, the people, at all events, will know how to load him with laurels. Next comes Port Royal, where Du Pont led his fleet in that magnificent elliptic dance. [Applause.] And now in these last hours we get tidings of our Puritan Parson Foote, who held the rebels so long in conference at Island No. Ten, and when they ran away without waiting for the benediction, resolute dissenter as he is, sent a Pope after them to bring them back. [Laughter and cheers.]

To-night we stand face to face with the heroes of Hampton Roads. We have met to honor the living; to bless the memory of the dead. These men did not fight for glory, they fought because it was their duty to fight, but glory they shall have. We applaud the living, we drop a tear for those who went down fighting for our flag, but, above all, we adopt their widows and orphans as our own. We throw our arms around them in their sorrow, and assure them they shall not be left to want.

These dead heroes teach us a grand lesson. They were martyrs to duty. Let us be fired by their example. Duty is ours, the event is God's. And our duty is as plain as a turnpike road. Not our own nationality alone, republican freedom itself is imperilled, and we are summoned to the deadly breach. Our one duty now is to fight, to fight, to fight, till we shall have won the day, won it for ourselves, for our children, and for all mankind. And let no man doubt the issue. Fear not for the Republic. The decree has not been registered in Heaven, that this young Republic shall perish. [Applause.] No nation of history, save that of the Hebrews, has had such a record as ours. Far more than three hundred years now, since North-America was first discovered, the hand of Providence has been most conspicuous in all our fortunes. The interdiction of the Continent to European immigration so long as Europe was grossly commercial, the final opening of the gates of the Continent, when Europe was ready to plant it with Christian States, our gradual deliverance from European domination, the inspiration of wisdom which dictated our incomparable Constitution, our steady progress in wealth and power, these things all bear witness that the Lord of hosts has been with us,

shaping our institutions and our destiny to uses which vitally affect the dearest interests of the whole human race. We have no right to be a nation of boasters. With all our intelligence and bravery, our own strength has not gotten us the victory. From the beginning till now we have triumphed because the stars in their courses have contended for us. Our men fought gallantly in Hampton Roads, but it was a kind Providence which sent the little Monitor just in the nick of time to save our menaced fleet, and drive back the monster Merrimac crippled to Norfolk. If we have sometimes doubted the wisdom and efficiency of our Government at Washington, we have had no reason to doubt the gracious intentions of Providence towards us. Through all our worst fortunes, we have had the pillar of cloud by day, and the pillar of fire by night.

And now, my countrymen, we put our hands once more to the terrible work before us. We have only to fight this battle through, and then meet in their time the further duties which victory may bring us. Some faint-hearted men are still amongst us. I have heard it said, that we are running up an enormous debt, which can never be cancelled. I never yet knew a man, whose family were starving, to be greatly afraid of running in debt for the sack of corn which was needed to feed them. We have only to keep the nation alive at any cost, and let the debt take care of itself. I have heard it said, that the men of the South, doubly alienated by this bitter war, can never be brought back into cordial relations with us.

But I never yet knew a wise father withhold needed chastisement from a wayward and stubborn child through fear of a permanent alienation of feeling. We have only to lay on the rod, and wait for time to do its soothing and cooling work. I also hear many anxious questions asked in regard to the "Contrabands." Let us give ourselves no solicitude about • them. Sufficient unto the day is the good thereof, as well as the evil thereof. [Laughter.] Looked at in the mass, these four millions of persons held to service amongst us, present a problem which may well perplex the wisest of our statesmen. But this problem is in the hands of a wise and beneficent Providence. Ours is the simple duty of completely crushing out this stupendous rebellion, at whatever cost to . the "peculiar institution" which has wantonly provoked it. Let us faithfully and fearlessly do this one work. It is enough for us to know the duty of the hour. That duty done, will flash light upon the duty next waiting to be done. We have only to move onward step by step, and we shall find the path we tread in as clear as daylight, and as firm as adamant. [Cheers.] We fight to sustain our flag. Only the cross shall ever rise above it, and these two shall go down the ages together, shedding their benedictions upon the men of every color and of every clime. [Great Applause.]

The Chairman then read the following letter from Gen. Scott:

"I would be most happy to meet with you and join in felicitating our noble tars, officers and men, of the frigates Cumberland and Congress, but for my lameness and the fear that the excitement would be still more hurtful to me. Respectfully yours,

"WINFIELD SCOTT."

He also read a letter from Capt. Radford, which contained at the close a complimentary mention of Lieut. Morris, who was in command when the Cumberland went down.

Three cheers were given for Lieut. Morris.

Miss Maria Brainerd sang a charming song—Viva l'America—which was very warmly applauded.

A Sailor of the Cumberland was then introduced. He said : My friends, the task that I have before me is at once painful and pleasant-painful when I think of my lost shipmates, and pleasant when I see so many smiling faces here. It is my task to detail as near as I can the engagement of our ship with the Merrimac. It was about eight o'clock on Saturday morning, the eighth day of March, when we first saw the Merrimac. We beat to quarters, and so did the Congress. She went on the passage down to Fortress Monroe, instead of coming towards our ship; afterwards she stood for the ship. As she passed the Congress the brave ship poured two or three broadsides at her, but they were not any more than throwing peas or apples at her, when she came at us. Could we have kept her off at arm's length she never would have taken us, but she ran her steel prow into us, when Mr. Buchanan, the man who commanded her, asked our Commander, "Will vou surrender ?" he answered, "Never will I surrender!" and he took

his infernal machine off and ran it into us again. He then asked again, "Mr. Morris," calling him by name, "will you surrender that ship?" "Never," says he, "if you sink her !" Then a marine from our ship drew a bead on Mr. Buchanan, and I rather think that he is dead now. The paper that tells he was only wounded, I think, tells an untruth, for the marine drew a sure bead on him. Well, my friends, the Cumberland had to go, and we tried to do our duty, as I hope that every seaman that has to come after us will do his duty in like manner. [Loud applause.]

In response to loud cries for "Morris," the Chairman stated that Lieut. Morris had been ordered to Washington.

A Voice—What is the sailor's name?

The Chairman—James Marlow.

One of the Cumberland's crew, George McKenney, sang "The Red, White, and Blue," the crew joiningin the chorus. The song was received with vociferous applause.

Three cheers were given for "The Red, White, and Blue," and between parts first and second of the performance the band played a selection from Robert le Diable.

The Chairman said there had been a request from the audience to see the marine who fired the fatal shot; he was not present. His name was Gates. It was proposed to give three cheers for Lieut. Morris.

The cheers were given with a will, the crews joining in them.

Wm. M. Evarts, Esq., was then introduced. With

eloquent panegyric upon the bravery of our sailors, he prefaced a few words upon the war. . . . Nothing could surpass the bravery of these men. That day was the commencement of a new era in naval warfare, and so long as that should be a science, the day would be remembered as that which saw the bravery of the men of the Cumberland and Congress. . . . Mr. Evarts read an extract from a Southern paper which paid a high tribute to the heroism of the Cumberland's crew. [Three cheers for 'em.] After this, who was there who could not give a new meaning to the cry: "Don't give up the ship?" It meant something. It meant: "Don't give up the ship, although you go to the bottom in her." Tt meant: "Don't give up the good ship, the Constitution; better be buried beneath the liberties of the country, than survive them." [Loud cheers.]

Mr. S. C. Campbell then sang "The White Squall."

The Chairman then introduced Mr. Willard, a sailor from the Congress.

Mr. Willard said : Gentlemen and Ladies, I am not acquainted with this kind of speaking. I am not used to it; I have been too long in a man-of-war. I enlisted in a man-of-war when I was thirteen years of age; I am now forty. I have been in one ever since. We had been a long time in the Congress, waiting for the Merrimac, with the Cumberland. I claim a timber-head in both ships. I belonged to the Cumberland in the destroying of the Navy-Yard and the ships at Norfolk. On the eighth of March, when the Merrimac came out, we were as tickled as a boy

would be with his father coming home with a new kite for him. [Loud laughter and applause.] She fired a gun at us. It went clean through the ship, and killed nobody. The next one was a shell. It came in at a port-hole, killed six men, and exploded and killed nine more. The next one killed ten. Then she went down to the Cumberland. She had an old grudge against her, and she took her hog-fashion, as I should say. [Great laughter.] The Cumberland fought her as long as she could. She fired her spar-deck guns at her after the gun-deck was under water, but the shot had no more effect than peas. She sunk the Cumberland in about seven fathoms of water. You know what a fathom is - six feet. We lay in nine fathoms, and it would not do to sink in that. We slipped our cable and ran into shallower water, to get our broadside on the Merrimac, but we got her bows on; that gave them a chance to rake us as they did. The Commander opened a little porthole, and said : "Smith, will you surrender the ship?" Says he: "No, not as long as I have got a gun or a man to man it." They fired a broadside. The men moved the dead bodies away, and manned the guns again. They fired another broadside, and dismounted both the guns and killed the crews. When they first went by us, they set us a fire by a shell exploding near the magazine. I know where the magazine is; you folks don't. Last broadside she killed our commander, Mr. Smith, our sailing-master and the pilot. We had no chance at all. We were on the spar-deck, most of us; the other steamers firing at us, and we dodging the shot; no chance to dodge down below, because you could not see the shot till they were inside of the ship. We had no chance and we surrendered. The rebel officers—we knowed 'em all — all old playmates, shipmates — came home in the Germantown with them; all old playmates, but rascals now. She left us, and she went towards Norfolk to get out of the way. She returned in the morning to have what I'd call a fandango with the Minnesota, and the first thing she knowed, the little bumble-bee, the Monitor, was there, and she went back. I have no more to say, people, but there is the flag that the fathers of our country left us, and by the powers of God above us, we'll — [Tremendous cheering.]

One of the crew of the Congress, Walter M. Pierce, sang the "Boatswain's Call," and he was loudly applauded.

The Hon. George Bancroft was next introduced, and spoke as follows:

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am called upon most unexpectedly, but I cannot refuse the summons to express your thankful admiration of the rare courage displayed by the men who are with us to-night. Call up vividly to your minds the desperate condition to which these brave seamen were reduced; not meeting face to face an equal enemy, but attacked with irresistible force by a new and untried power. Nor was this all; the Cumberland, on whose deck they stood, was cleft so badly by the iron prow of her adversary that they could hear the water rush gurgling into her hold, and could measure how few sands were

vet to run out before she must entirely go down. It was under this combination of appalling circumstances that our guests manifested the wonderful self-possession that enabled them to continue the combat effectively while their ship was sinking. This unique display of patriotism entitles them to the gratitude of the American people, and to the esteem of every one who wishes well to the liberties of mankind. In those moments of heroic action, you, My MEN, were the champions of humanity, the defenders of the great cause of the people, the assertors of the imperishable life of this Republic; and the memory of that hour of your mingled glory and sorrow will never fade away.

The greatest invention of the eighteenth century was that of a republic founded on the principle of the equality of men, and shall it have been found out and established in vain? Is popular government but a brilliant meteor? Is this Republic to be rent asunder and die? No! My MEN, you have proved that it lives and is safe against decay. When this war began, the people from their fields and workshops started to arms with a spirit like yours, and five hundred thousand men rose up, willing to prove with their lives that in very truth we have a country; that the liberty which has been committed to their keeping, shall never be submerged, and they will take care to bring the torch of liberty still burning to the goal. The people, moreover, have perpetual succession, and their voice comes up as the voice of eternal truth itself, declaring that our beautiful flag and all of which it is the emblem, shall be handed down in undimmed lustre from generation to generation.

I have said, MY MEN, that your reputation has in one sense gone through the world; but it has a nearer relation to us, who belong to the same country with yourselves. And what is to be the boundary of that country? Shall it be confined by the Potomac? Never! Or by the Mississippi? Never, O.never! Or by the Rocky Mountains? There, too, it would be too narrow. Our country must never be less than from the St. Lawrence to the Mexican Gulf, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

In the name of this vast assembly, My MEN, I once more give thanks to you all. We rejoice that you continued fighting to the last, and that when you went down, you left the Star-Spangled Banner flying where it still flies, at the peak of the Cumberland, in token that no perils, no enemies, no flood of waters, no treasons, no rebellion can overwhelm our liberty and Union.

Three cheers were given for Captain Ericsson, for Lieutenant Worden, and for the President.

Mr. KEARNEY, of the Congress, then sang a humorous song in praise of the yacht America, the curiosity and astonishment of John Bull being represented by the chorus :

> Oh! where did she come from ? New-York Town. Who's the Captain of her ? One Mr. Brown :

which the crew sang with great gusto. The satisfac-

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tion of the audience found huge and prolonged manifestation, and the jolly tar was called back. He sang the first verse of "Uncle Sam is rich enough to give us all a farm," and retreated under cover of the applause.

WM. E. DODGE, Esq., in addressing the sailors, said :

We have met before. I feel a very special interest in you all. I saw you the morning after the battle, as you came from your destroyed ships, looking so very different from your appearance this evening. Nor can I forget that Saturday when it was announced that the Merrimac had passed Sewell's Point, and was making her way to Newport News. I was with General Wool at his guarters. Soon the telegraph announced that she had engaged the Congress, then the Cumberland, and in a few minutes that the latter was sinking with all hands on board. In less than an hour there came the stunning news that the Congress had surrendered. All around were pale with excitement, but there stood the old General, cool and collected, giving his orders promptly. All expected the Merrimac would at once attack the Minnesota, which was aground, but she soon moved off, evidently in some way disabled, and it has since been proved that your last guns did some execution.

When, that evening, the arrival of the Monitor was announced, the air rang with shouts, and even those who seldom referred to such things were saying, "how providential." On Sunday morning early the Merrimac was seen advancing towards the Minnesota, and after a little the Monitor, which had remained near her during the night, began to move towards the Merrimac. As they neared each other, I suppose the Merrimac began to think best to feel of that strange-looking object, for she fired her bow guns at her; but there was no response from the Monitor till she got within about half a mile, when she fired her two guns, then they continued to fire till they passed, the Monitor taking the full broadsides of the Merrimac. Again they turned and approached each other, and thus they continued to manœuvre for an hour or more. At last the Merrimac ran directly for the Monitor, and ran her ram on her deck, and while in that position they each discharged their guns. It was a most interesting moment, but they soon parted, and the Merrimac began to move off slowly, so much so that it was said she was going down, and then from that old fortress, crowded with men, there went up a shout that was tremendous, but soon two gunboats came and towed her off. I am confident that if the Monitor had been able to have fired her conical projectiles and followed her up, she would have finished her in a short time.

But I must not take up your time. I am to say a word to these noble men who have been in the heat of battle, some of them just escaping as the Cumberland went down. Look, my good fellows, at this splendid audience, all looking at you with deep emotion and longing to do you honor. Never forget that when on board ship there will be many thousands who will be watching you. Never feel that you are forgotten. Stand by that flag as you have done to the last. You have been connected with a battle that will, with your noble conduct, go all over the world and form part of the history of our country.

May you be followed by every blessing here, and at last all cast anchor in the haven of eternal rest.

Captain CHAS. H. MARSHALL offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That, as the sense of this meeting, some recognition of the heroic and gallant conduct of the officers and crews of the frigates Cumberland and Congress during the late engagement at Hampton Roads, is eminently due from the Government, and that it be recommended to the Navy Department to prepare a suitable medal to be presented to each of the surviving officers and men in commemoration of the event.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution, signed by the Chairman and Secretary of this meeting, be transmitted to the Navy Department at Washington.

The resolutions were adopted and the meeting adjourned.

After the adjournment the sailors and marines formed and took up their return march to the Navy-Yard. Notwithstanding the lateness of the hour, many accompanied them amidst continued manifestations of sympathy and gratitude.

APPENDIX.

THE keel of the noble steam frigate Merrimac was laid at Charlestown, Mass., in the year 1852. For many years employed in active service, at the breaking out of the rebellion she was lying at the Gosport Navy-Yard, near Norfolk, Va. It being feared that the Navy-Yard and the vessels there might fall into the hands of the rebels, it was resolved to destroy such as could not be removed. The Merrimac was therefore set on fire, and scuttled, and her charred hull soon disappeared beneath the surface. Some time after the rebels had taken possession of the station, they succeeded in raising the vessel, repaired her machinery, covered her with a coat of heavy iron mail, armed her with heavy rifled guns, provided her with a projecting ram of iron, and as the sequel will show, sent her forth to do traitor's work.

The Monitor was built at New-York, after plans furnished to the Navy Department by Captain John Ericsson of New-York, a native of Sweden, but an adopted citizen of the United States, who had already acquired a distinguished reputation by his eminent scientific skill, and by several valuable inventions. She was a small iron propeller, one hundred and twenty-four feet long, and thirty-four feet wide,

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on which rested another iron-clad hull, one hundred and seventy-four feet long, and forty feet wide, having perpendicular sides of great thickness, sharp ends, and an arched iron-plated deck, about five feet above the surface of the water, and presenting nothing on the deck but a revolving bomb-proof turret, twenty feet in diameter and ten feet high, containing two eleven-inch guns.

OFFICERS AND CREWS OF SHIPS

CUMBERLAND AND CONGRESS.

U. S. SLOOP-OF-WAR CUMBERLAND.

A star (*) denotes killed or missing.

OFFICERS.

Commander,	.WILLIAM RADFORD, (was on board the
	Roanoke as a member of a Court Martial,
	at the time of the action.)
LIEUTENANTS,	.GEORGE U. MORRIS,
· ·	THOMAS O. SELFRIDGE.
MASTER,	.M. S. STUYVESANT.
	WILLIAM P. RANDALL,
	WILLIAM W. KENNISON.
SECOND LIEUT. MARINES	.CHARLES HAYWARD.
Рилот,	
SURGEON,	
Assistant Surgeon,	.EDWARD KERSHNER.
PAYMASTER,	.CRAMER BURT.
ACTING MASTER'S MATES,	
	E. V. TYSON,
	CHAS. O'NEIL,
	JOHN M. HARRINGTON.*
CHAPLAIN,	.JOHN L. LENHART.*
BOATSWAIN,	
GUNNER,	.EUGENE MACK.
	WILLIAM M. LAIGHTON.
PAYMASTER'S CLERK,	.HUGH NOTT.

Anderson, Jas., Anderson, William, Baker, Fredk., *Baker, David, Bates, John, Bailey, Oscar F., *Bainbridge, Wm., *Bass, Holloway, *Bowser, Thomas, *Bailey, Wm. H., Beecher, Martin F., Paphon Lacon Benham, Isaac S., Benson, James, *Berry, Constant V, Bishop, Chas. W., Briscoe, Jas., *Brien, Jas., Brown, Jas., Brown, Henry, Brown, John, 1st, Brown, John, 2d, Buchanan, Alex., Burns, George, Burns, James, Burke, William, Butts, George W., Burt, John, Butler, Jeremiah, Burns, Edward, Campbell, Henry, Case, Geo. W., Casey, William, Casey, William, Carroll, William, 1st, Carroll, William, 2d, Carroll, James H., Carroll, Lohn Carroll, John, Chase, Robt. Campbell, Chas., Carr, John, Canns, Stephen, Callahan, John, Carter, John, Cambridge, Ed. A., Caswell, James, Cavanagh, J. B., Concanon, John, Connell, John, Cozzens, Francis, Corscaden, James, Coyne, Michael, Coleman, Wm., Collins, Dan.,

Clohassey, Michael, Cook, Brenton B., Collins, John, 2d, Coleman, David M., Connerton, Joseph, Connelly, Michael, Cobb, Edward, *Collins, John, 1st, *Cochrane, Timothy A., *Connor, George, Cumberton, Thomas, Cuthbert, Andrew, Cruse, John, Davis, John, 1st, *Davis, John, 2d, Dailey, Wm. B., Dacey, Wm., Davis, Thos., Dennis, Geo., Devine, John, Delancy, Jeremiah, *Donahy Michael, *Doty, Rufus, Doyle, Michael, Doyle, Charles, Donnegan, Michael, Donlan, Edward, Douglas, James, Donohue, Cornelius, Dodge, Lyman F., *Dunn, Abraham, *Dunbar, George, Eagen, James, Elwell, Wm., Edgerly, John J., *Elleston, Francis N., *Esposset, Salvador, Farrell, John, Flarity, Michael, Faye, John, Fleming, Bartholomew, *Ferguson, John W., *Freeman, Josiah C., *Flynn, John H., Fitzgerald, Thos., Fitsimmons, Cornelius., Fronk, Wm., Forrest, Chas., Fortune, Isaac, Flynn, Edward, Flynn, John H., Graham, Thomas, Gage, Wm.,

Gardiner, Edwin S., Graney, Michael, Grady, John, Gardner, John, Garland, Francis, Grant, Geo. W., Gray, Walter S. G., Garvey, Andrew, *Gallagher, Francis (boy) *Garguilo, Nicholas, Gillen, Thomas, Green, James, Hazell, John Harmstein, Chas., Harrington, John, Hall, Geo. D., Halhaway, James F., Hanlon, Bernard, Harrington, Marty Harrington, Cornelius, Harney, Patrick, Hayes, Marcus M., *Harrington, Thomas, *Herrald, James, Hendricks, Frederick, *High, James, Hitchings, Lawson, Hickey, Joseph, *Howston, Wm., Horton, Wm. H., Hogan, Wm. H., Hora, John, *Hubbard, Wm. B., Hudson, Caleb L., Hurley, David F., Jackson, Thomas, Jarman, Henry, *Johnson, James, *Johnson, James E., Johnson, Nicholas, Jones, Owen M., Kelly, Wm., Kelly, Dennis, Kelly, Richard, Kennard, John F., *Kelly, Thomas H., *Kelly, Cornelius, *King, Sam., *Kirker, John, Knight, Charles F., Lamprey, Jeremiah D., Larkin, John, Langan, Patrick,

*Lewis, James, *Lewis, Michael, Lewis, Wm., Lennard, John, *Liverman, Elias, Livingston, Laughlin, Lindsey, James D., Long, Wm., Lynch, Barney, Lyons, Edward, Lyons, Timothy, Lynch, Dan. J. *Martin, Alex., Marlow, James, Mack, Wm., McCaffery, Alex., McCarthy, John, McCarthy, Dennis, Mallon, Thomas, McLaughlin, Patrick, McNamara, Patrick, Mason, Jerome, McCracken, James, Mahoney, James, McLaughlin, James, *McDonald, Geo., *McCannon, James, McLellan, James, Mead, Patrick, Milliken, Dan. S., Miller, Robt., Miller, Caleb, McIntosh, James, Miller, John, McGrinn, J. McGowan, Nath., Mosher, Ace, Morriss, John, Moore, Thomas, Morrissy, Rodger, Moriarty, Michael, *Morris, George, *Moxon, Wm. K., Murray, Wm. A., Murray, John, *Murray, Dan., *Mullaney, Patrick,

*Murphy, Robert, Myhan, John, *Nickerson, Holmes, Nicholson, Christopher, Olney, Stephen M., O'Neil, Dan., O'Brien, Oliver, *O'Brien, John, *O'Brien, Wm. H., O'Connell, John, Pendergrast, Wm., Peterson, Thos. S., *Peterson, John, *Pierce, John A., Poole, Wm., Powell, Nathaniel, *Powers, John, *Putnam, Geo., *Quinn, Patrick, Quinlan, Timothy, Ramsey, Wm., Rasmussen, Michael, Rankin, Geo., *Reed, John P., Reed, Wm., Reed, Benj. S., Reedon, John, Rommertel, John, Rider, Wm. H., Rice, John, Riddle, Joseph D., Robinson, James, 1st., Roberts, Geo., Ross, James H., Roach, Geo., Roux, Ch., *Ryan, Michael, Stark, John, Slattery, Edward, *Saunders, John H., Senter, Geo. Stebbins, Wm. S., Stephens, Chas. N., Sefton, Rich., Smith, Joseph G., *Smithers, Wm. H., Scott, Abraham,

Stockwell, John, Slowey, James, *Suits, Albert, Sullivan, Andrew, Sullivan, Cornelius, Sullivan, Michael, Sullivan, Patrick, Sullivan, Peter, Sullivan, Wm., Sullivan, Nath., Stuffles, Michael, Sutton, Thos., Taylor, Thomas, Taylor, Sylvestor Taylor, Sylvester D., Tracy, Thomas, *Taylor, H. M., Tierney, Matthew, *Tierney, Matthew D., *Thompson, Fred., *Thompson, James A., *Thompson, John L., Thomas, Saml., Thomas, Henry, Trott, Wm., Tobin, Rich., Thompson, John. Turner, Patrick, *Turnbough, David M., Veale, Wesley, *Vernat, August, *Wallace, Henry C. T., Wade, Terence, Waterman, Wm., Walsh, Michael, *Whitehurst, Joshua, *Weston, Wm., *Webber, John, *Whitney, Cornelius, Whitten, John, Willey, Wm. J., Williams, Chas., 1st, Wilson, Archd. Wilson, Jas., 2d, White, Simon, Woods, Arthur, *Woods, John.

Goetz, Leonard,	Mealy, John O.,
Harris, Geo. W.,	Martin, Thos.,
Howard, Dan.,	McAleer, Peter,
Joshlyn, Wm. H.,	McFadden, Alex.,
Lyon, Geo.,	McDermott, John,
Lloyd, Thos.,	O'Connor, Dan.,
Leonard, Hy.,	Small, Dan.,
Leavy, Michael,	Sweeny, Thos.,
Lanning, Geo. H.,	Stephenson, Geo. E.,
McCarthy, John,	Webster, Edwin,
Marley, Jeremiah,	Wilkes, Francis H.
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MARINES. *

Brown, Henry, Baxter, Rich. J., Bunker, Chas. O., Bunker, John J., Callahan, Eugene, Craig, John, Cooper, Joseph, Daley, Alex., Deady, James, Duncan, John, Grant, Thos.,

* Names of killed and missing not ascertained.

U. S. FRIGATE CONGRESS.

A star (*) denotes killed or missing.

OFFICERS.

LIEUTENANT,JOSEPH B. SMITH, Commanding.*
LIEUTENANT,
MASTER,
ACTING MASTER,
SECOND LIEUT. MARINES,JOSEPH E. BAKER.
SURGEON,
ASSISTANT SURGEON,EDWARD D. PAYNE.
PAYMASTER,
ACTING MASTER'S MATE, P. J. HARGOUS.
BOATSWAIN,
GUNNER,
CARPENTER,
SAILMAKER,
PILOT,WM. RHODES.*
COMMANDER WM. SMITH was on board at the time of the action.

SEAMEN.

Allen, Thomas,	Byrnes, William,	Desmonds, Andrew,
Allen, Robert,	Bly, Charles E.,	Dennison, John,
Anderson, John,	Campbell, James,	*Demont, John,
Anderson, Peter,	Carroll, Thomas,	*Donahoe, William,
Anderson, James,	Carberry, Charles,	Doty, Charles,
Atwood, James R.,	Chadwick, Zephaniah,	Doran, Michael,
Baker, Samuel,	Clarke, William,	Donnelly, Frank,
Band, John,	Calman, John,	Donovan, Cornelius,
Barritt, John,	Charez, Florence,	Donovia, Manuel,
Bangs, William,	Clegg, Arthur,	Duffy, William H.,
Barry, Peter,	Christiansen, Peter,	Fahey, Patrick,
Bamba, Isaac,	Chickering, Charles W.,	Francis, George A.,
Beaman, Thomas R.,	Crooke, John,	Francis, Charles,
Bethel, William,	Cowdray, Charles M.,	Fleming, Michael,
*Brislin, James,	Combs, Joseph V.,	Fleming, John,
Briggs, David L.,	Coffey, John C.,	Ferguson, David,
Boyce, James,	Coles, John H.,	Fish, Spencer,
Brotherton, Moses,	Corletto, Charles,	Fish, Henry N.,
Boyle, James,	Collins, John,	Forward, Thomas,
Boyd, Thomas,	Comer, Robert,	Fox, John,
Brown, John,	*Cutter, Frederick,	Fuller, James E.,
Bunting, John,	Cunningham, Robert,	*Flynn, John,
Buror, John,	Curtis, Frederick H.,	Glancey, Paul,
Buckley, Patrick,	Daley, James,	Gallupe, Amos,

*Garrity, William J., Greaves, John J., Greaves, John W., Grenv, Manuel. *Given, William J., *Gibson, Charles, Gildersleeve, William, Gomez, Joseph, Gordon, Thomas, Goodwin, Sewell, Hayes, James, Hans, John, Hartford, Hiram E., Handlin, Edward, Hawkins, William E., Haynes, Moses D., Hillers, John S., Hilam, James H., *Higgins, George S., Howard, Leonidas, Holcomb. Samuel H., Holsey, Jefferson, *Hovey, Christopher P., Hunt, Thomas D., Hughes, James, Ignatius, Robert, Jackson, John, *Jewett, Jesse H., *Joy, Bradford, Jones, Thomas C. Johnson, Alexander, Jones, John, Johnson, Lawson, Joseph, Antonio, Kailher, Daniel, Kellogg, David S., Kendall, Warren E., Kelly, James, Kenton, Thomas, Kelly, Samuel, Kennedy, Matthew, Knight, Charles H., Kinney, James, Kiernitz, Charles, Labray, Anthony, Lawless, Edmund, Lawless, Stephen, *Leroy, John, Lewis, Ferdinand, Leighton, James A., Lenahan, Patrick, Lewis, Charles, 1 Littlefield, George, Lynch, Dennis S., Marshall, Jacob,

McCarthy, Francis. McNamara, Michael, Maloney, Michael H., Marshall. William. Mahan, Robert, McNamara, Martin, McTaggart, Peter, McCarthy, James, McStravich, John, McGrath, Edward, Mackaber, William, McFadyen, James, McGreehan, Peter, *Mileand, John, McBride, Edward, Mitchell, Thomas F., Miller, Eugene J., Millinbrook, Henry, *Miller, Alexander, Miller, Peter, Miller, William H., McGinnis, John, McDonough, Thomas, Morrison, Charles, *Moran, Thomas, Moore, Peter M., Moore, William H., Morissey, Edward, McComber, George, Mountain, George P., McCully, James, Murphy, Christopher, Mullane, Philip, Neally, George S., Nelson, Peter, Nogan, John, *O'Haren, Timothy *O'Garrity, Edward, O'Brien, James, O'Rourke, Terence, O'Conner, Jeremiah, Pavne, James H., *Parker, Peter, Pedrillo, Joseph, Peck, W. C., Penton, Nathaniel, Pepper, Edward J., Pierce, Walter A., Pierson, George, Pierce, John W., *Post, Joseph H., Porter, Elbridge, Quackenbush, Samuel, Quinn, Michael Reiss, Sabine,

Reardon, Cornelius, Regan, William, Reardon, Timothy, Renwick, David S., Ritchie, John, Riley, Thomas, Riley, William, Rodgers, Frank, Rodgers, Robert S., Ross, Henry A., Rodgers, Thomas, Rohan, John, Robinson, William, Roper, Robert K ... Roundy, Nathaniel, Ryan, Richard, Ryan, James, Ryder, Frank, Swaine, Henry G., Scanland, Thomas, Shanlon, James, *Saven, Thomas, Sherman, Joseph S., Steele, Amor B., Sherry, David, Sterling, Hiram, Stephens, George, *Sweney, John, *Senna, Manuel, *Shein, Patrick, Smith, John, 1st, Smith, Joseph R., Smith, Charles, Smith, Henry, Singlee, Martin W., Scott, Richard, Southwick, Charles T., Stockman, John H., Sullivan, Daniel, Sydds, Thomas, Taylor, James M., Taylor, Charles B., Trask, Charles, Tierney, Michael, Thompson, Henry, Thompson, William, Townsend, Daniel W., Toson, John, Thompson, Peter, Tomlinson, C. B., Thorn, John, Tullidge, William R., Vaoni, Charles, Valentine, Charles R., Vose, William H.,

Walker, Benjamin S., Watson, Richard, Wagner, Lewis, Watkins, Frank, Way, Henry, Watson, Mark, Welch, William, Whelan, Bernard,

Webber, Charles W., Webster, George, Weston, Moses, *Wickes, James A., Wilton, Francis, Willard, Louis, Wright, George L., White, Robert A.,

Williams, William H., Williams, John, Wilson, Charles, Williams, George, 2d, Williams, Creighton H., Williams, John, Wing, Benjamin F.

MARINES.*

Allison, William, Andover, Wendeler, Blake, Christopher, Bailey, Leonard, Brunt, Robert, Collins, John, Carney, John, Cahill, John, Cooney, Thomas, Coleman, Patrick, Clancy, John, Clancey, Patrick, Kemmarer, Edgar, Carr, Wm. H., Corporal, Lewis, William H., Coyne, Michael, Crowe, Patrick, Chrilman, Thomas,

Dunn, Patrick, Donlan, Thomas, Diver, Edward, Grant, W. J., Corporal, Haley, Humphrey, Hogan, John, High, William H., Helms, William H., James, John, Jones, Thomas, Keilly, Thomas, Letford, Albert, Lawrence, John F., McClusker, James,

McKivet, James, McFarland, Thos., Sergt., Munger, Calvin, Sergt., McKinley, James, McCabe, Benjamin, Nelly, Michael, O'Brien, Thomas, O'Mealy, John, Ridden, John, Sullivan, Jeremiah, Steele, William C., Sherwood, Lyman M., Stetzer, P., Toby, Michael, Treacy, Martin, Welsh, Edward.

* Names of killed and wounded not ascertained.

Dr. The Committee of Reception of the Officers and Crews of the

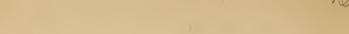
	84 66
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	,
\$3212	50

U. S. Frigates Cumberland and Congress, in ac. with E. Platt, Treas. Cr.

207

By DONATION, namely :		
	\$100	00
		00
C. P. P. Field, \ldots		00
H. Huelat,		00
Cash,		00
Pacific Mail Steamship Company,		00
P Perit	50	00
P. Perit,	100	00
M. B. Field.	10	00
M. B. Field,	3	00
James Demarest.	25	00
James Demarest,	2	00
	200	00
H. C.,	5	00
G. F. Nesbitt & Co.,	10	00
G. F. Nesbitt & Co.,		50
A Lady, (by Capt. Morgan,)	5	00
Mrs. S. S. Osgood, a 7.30 Treasury note.	100	00
D. G. and W. B. Bacon,		00
James Lenox,	250	
Spofford & Tileston,	100	
E P		00
I. C. Whitmore,		00
R. L. & A. Stuart,		00
R. L. & A. Stuart, .		00
Shay & Adair,		00
"Locophug"		00
Cash, (I. M. M.,)	25	
Cash, (I. M. M.,) "Peculiar Party,"	11	
Cash, (by Wm. E. Dodge, Jr.,)	25	00
FROM THE PRESS:		
The Herald,	54	88
"Times,	31	20
" World,	39	80
"Tribune,	20	80
" Tribune,	13	16
"Express,	22	32
" Evening Post,	12	74
" Commercial Advertiser,	13	97
	1729	50
Interest,	20	63
-		
(Signed)	\$3212	50

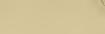
E. PLATT, Treasurer of Committee.



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